

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 1, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 1, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2092

**Introduced by Assembly Member Chávez
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Olsen)**

February 20, 2014

An act to add Section 66011.3 to the Education Code, relating to public postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2092, as amended, Chávez. Postsecondary education: Donahoe Higher Education Act: 4-year baccalaureate degree.

Existing law, known as the Donahoe Higher Education Act, sets forth, among other things, the missions and functions of California's public and independent segments of higher education, and their respective ~~institutions of higher education~~ *campuses*. The public segments of higher education include the California State University, under the administration of the Trustees of the California State University, and the University of California, under the administration of the Regents of the University of California.

This bill would require the Trustees of the California State University, and request the Regents of the University of California, to offer eligible students of their respective segments an agreement guaranteeing that a student who meets certain conditions may complete a baccalaureate degree within 4 academic years, with the exception of certain programs that may require up to 5 academic years to complete. The bill would specify that a student who scores in an unspecified percentile, or above,

on a standardized college readiness assessment would be presumed to be eligible to enter into an agreement under the bill. The bill would require the agreement to outline a general pathway for the coursework that the student must complete in order to continue to be qualified for the guarantee and receive his or her baccalaureate within the agreed-upon time.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 66011.3 is added to the Education Code,
2 to read:
3 66011.3. (a) The Trustees of the California State University
4 shall, and the Regents of the University of California are requested
5 to, offer eligible students of their respective segments an agreement
6 guaranteeing that a student who meets certain conditions may
7 complete a baccalaureate degree within four academic years. ~~An~~
8 ~~institution may~~ *A campus may, in accordance with policies adopted*
9 ~~by the trustees or the regents, as applicable,~~ *provide for a longer*
10 period for programs such as engineering or teacher training that
11 may require more than four academic years to complete, but under
12 no circumstances may the time to baccalaureate degree agreed to
13 under this section be extended beyond five academic years.
14 (b) An agreement entered into under this section shall comply
15 with all of the following:
16 (1) A student who scores in the ____ percentile or above on any
17 standardized college readiness assessment test, such as the
18 Scholastic Aptitude Test, ACT, or any other widely administered
19 college readiness examination, shall be presumed to be eligible to
20 enter into the agreement. A student who scores below the top ____
21 percentile, but above the ____ percentile may take another test of
22 ~~the institution's campus's~~ *choice,* and ~~the institution campus~~ shall
23 establish a cut-off score for eligibility for the program pursuant to
24 that test.
25 (2) The agreement shall be executed by a student and an
26 authorized representative of the ~~institution campus~~ before the end
27 of the student's first semester or quarter of enrollment at the
28 ~~institution campus~~.

1 (3) The agreement shall outline a general pathway for the
2 coursework that the student must complete in order to continue to
3 be qualified for the guarantee and receive his or her baccalaureate
4 within the agreed-upon time.

5 ~~(4) The student shall not be required to declare a major field~~
6 ~~until the spring semester or quarter of the student's sophomore~~
7 ~~year.~~

8 (4) *Each campus shall, in accordance with policies adopted*
9 *by the trustees or the regents, as applicable, determine the latest*
10 *possible time for a participating student enrolled in a*
11 *four-academic-year degree program, or a degree program that*
12 *may require up to five academic years to complete pursuant to*
13 *subdivision (a), to declare a major; but the campus shall require*
14 *a participating student to declare his or her major no later than*
15 *the fall semester or quarter, as applicable, of his or her sophomore*
16 *year.*

17 (5) The student shall be required to be a full-time student and
18 maintain academic standards equivalent to those required pursuant
19 to Article 1 (commencing with Section 69430) of Chapter 1.7 of
20 Part 42 for receipt of Cal Grant awards.

21 (6) A student may also be required to attend orientation sessions
22 and student success workshops in order to remain eligible for the
23 guarantee.

24 (7) A student who executes an agreement under this section
25 shall be granted priority for enrollment for each course that is part
26 of the general pathway outlined as part of the agreement pursuant
27 to paragraph (3).

28 (8) A student who meets all of the requirements of the agreement
29 and, through no fault of his or her own, is unable to complete his
30 or her baccalaureate degree within the guaranteed period shall pay
31 no tuition to take the additional coursework required to complete
32 that degree.

33 (c) *For purposes of this section, "campus" means a campus of*
34 *the California State University or the University of California, as*
35 *applicable.*